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Sen. Birkholz's Great Lakes Protection Fund bill signed by governor

Lansing – Boaters will now be able to purchase a special watercraft decal to support the Great Lakes Protection Fund, Sen. Patty Birkholz (R-Saugatuck Twp) announced today after her bill was signed into law by the governor.

The GLPF is designed to provide funding and greater awareness of efforts to eradicate aquatic nuisance species in Michigan waters and to conduct general research on Great Lakes protection issues.

“Many people consider non-native aquatic species to be the most serious threat facing Michigan’s lakes and rivers,” Birkholz said. “This new funding program and decal allows boaters to show their dedication to eradicating this problem.

“It also is important to note that this decal is purely voluntary and that we are not increasing any costs to the boaters of this state.”

The decals will be available to any boater in Michigan in a distribution plan developed by the Secretary of State. The purchase price of the decal will be \$35, with \$25 going to the Great Lakes Protection Fund and \$10 for administrative costs.

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